

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 CU-04 SY-10 NIC-01 NEA-10 DRC-01

/157 W

----- 112228

R 121834Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5874

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

CINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HO

SUBJ: BOMB EXPLOSION AT UNIVERSITY

1. DURING EARLY MORNING HOURS OF DECEMBER 11 A POWERFUL BOMB EXPLODED IN THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. THE OFFICES OF THE RECTOR, VICE RECTOR AND SECRETARY GENERAL ALONG WITH PART OF THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES WERE SEVERELY DAMAGED BY THE BLAST AND THE RESULTING FIRE.

2. THE RECTOR, JORGE ARTURO REINA, THE VICE RECTOR AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL TOGETHER WITH OTHER FACULTY DEANS HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT ON DECEMBER 10 WHICH DENOUNCED AN ATTEMPT TO DESTROY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE UNIVERSITY AND IMPLANT A FACIST STYLE DICTATORSHIP IN HONDURAS. IT STATED THAT THE FAR RIGHT AND ITS FOREIGN SUPPORTERS WERE DOING ALL IN THEIR POWER TO HALT THE EMERGENCE OF A JUST AND FREE NATION. THE DECLARATION SPECIFICALLY

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CONDEMNED THE ARMED OCCUPATION OF THE UNIVERSITY BRANCH

IN LA CEIBA (CURLA), THE THREATS OF OCCUPATION
AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY BRANCH IN SAN PEDRO SULA (CURN)
AND PHYSICAL THREATS AND ACTIONS AGAINST THE OFFICIALS
AND STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY IN TEGUCIGALPA. PREVIOUSLY
ON DECEMBER 7 THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL PASSED A RESOLUTION
EXPELLING THIRTEEN STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY FOR THEIR
ARMED OCCUPATION OF THE CURLA CENTER.

3. COMMENT: A RIGHT WING STUDENT ORGANIZATION
CALLED THE UNITED UNIVERSITY DEMOCRATIC FRONT (FUUD)
HAS OCCUPIED THE CURLA CENTER SINCE NOVEMBER 7 AND HAS
PARTICIPATED IN A SERIES OF ACTS SUCH AS SWASTIKA
PAINTING IN TEGUCIGALPA. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS NO QUESTION
THAT IT HAS THREATENED A NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY
OFFICIALS AND STUDENTS CONSIDERED COMMUNISTS OR
LEFTISTS. EL CRONISTA ON DECEMBER 12 CARRIED AN ARTICLE
IN WHICH IT POINTS OUT THAT IT MAY HAVE BEEN A PRO-
MAOIST PLOT TO CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE PRESENT
UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE
FUUD IN FACT IS TRYING TO REGAIN SOME OF ITS LOST GROUND
IN THE UNIVERSITY AND TO PUT THE LEFTISTS ON THE
DEFENSIVE BOTH PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY. FOR
THAT REASON IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THEY WERE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPLOSION TO SHOW THEIR REACTION TO
THE EXPULSIONS AND A SIGN THAT THEY INTEND TO CONTINUE
THEIR CAMPAIGN.
SANCHEZ

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